Implementation of Tenth Plan schemes will depend upon approval, availability of funds and staff sanction.

Further action to extend coverage in uncovered pockets, would be considered during the Eleventh Plan period subject to availability of funds.

Centres under Prasar Bharati

†2032. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 1600 centres are working under Prasar Bharati where about 45000 employees are working;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government have identified the centres registering more income than expenditure; and

(d) if so, the number and locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that in so far as Doordarshan is concerned, currently, there are 64 Studio Centre, 1405 Transmitter Centres (High Power Transmitters, Low Power Transmitters, Very Low Power Transmitters and Transposers), 126 Doordarshan Maintenance Centres wherein 21,706 employees are working. As regards All India Radio, 247 AIR Centres are currently operational wherein 20,354 employees are working.

(c) and (d) While specific centres registering more income than expenditure have not been identified, yet, there has been marked improvement in the gross commercial earnings of both All India Radio and Doordarshan. Besides, Prasar Bharati, being a Public Service Broadcaster, is not adjudged by commercial considerations alone.

Recovery of arrears of Prasar Bharati

†2033. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prasar Bharati could not recover its arrears due to disputes;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.